

The True Lord's Prayer

Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

A. Text: John 17:1-2.

B. Jesus prayed this prayer aloud because the basic statements Jesus prayed to the Father, the believer can pray also.

II. The disciples sensed that something was wrong as they heard Jesus pray in the Garden fearing that He was going to leave them.

III. Jesus is looking forward to a time of boundless opportunity with the phrase "the Hour has come."

A. Jesus constantly told others that His hour had not come.

B. As He comes to the cross He states that the Hour has come.

C. This was an anticipation based upon the principle that death brings forth much fruit.

1. Beyond the cross lays the glory of God.

2. The cross, however, is the only way to it.

3. This principle applies to the believer as well.

IV. Jesus speaks out of the security of an adequate relationship.

A. The Father continually gives to the Son power over all flesh.

B. The purpose of the power is to give eternal life to whoever might come to Jesus.

C. Jesus will meet those however they come--they only need to come.

D. God is ready to give the believer power over all flesh in whatever needs we face.

E. We must have what God is in order to do what He did.

V. The unveiling of abounding possibility: eternal life.

A. Eternal life is knowing Jesus and the Father.

B. Eternal life is a relationship--it is in knowing another person that richness is added to life.

C. The results of a personal knowledge of God.

1. Enjoyment.

2. Enlargement.

3. Enrichment.

Application questions:

1. What is Jesus referring to when He speaks of the “hour?”

2. How should believers understand eternal life as it relates to them in this world?

3. How does Jesus model what our relationship with God ought to be through the cross and His adequate relationship with the Father? Explain.
